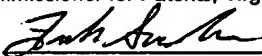


**PATENT**

Docket No. 1999CON2 (203-2526CON2)

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Virginia 22313-1450 on October 7, 2003.

By:  Date: October 7, 2003  
Francesco Sardone

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT : WAYNE C. PERSON  
TITLE : **SURGICAL INSTRUMENT HOLDER**  
SERIAL NO. : 10/647,950  
FILED : August 26, 2003  
PARENT  
EXAMINER : Jeffrey A. Smith  
PARENT  
ART UNIT : 3732  
October 7, 2003

**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MAIL STOP: Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on Page 2 of the paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of the paper.